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June 8, 1989

TO: Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Biologist *L. K.*

RE: Review of Soldier Creek Coal Company's Exploration Plan,  
Soldier Canyon Mine, CEP/007/018 - 89A, Folder #2, Carbon  
County, Utah

## Summary:

The Above referenced plan has been reviewed for completeness and adequacy and was found to be incomplete. The plan does not address the potential for impacting raptors nor does it contain adequate information regarding the reclamation of access roads.

## Analysis:

### UMC 776.11(b)(6):

Current information regarding the presence of, and location of raptors and/or nests is limited to the area adjacent to current surface disturbance. According to discussions with personnel from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR), prairie falcons and other raptor species are known to exist within the general area. Without a current raptor survey, drilling activities would be prohibited in the area from February 1 to July 15, of any given year. DWR stated that they could provide the Biologist to do the survey and write the report.

### UMC 815.15(c)(4):

The plan is not certain as to whether roads will be reclaimed or left. The plan does not identify which roads are being considered to be left or demonstrate that they will meet the criteria of UMC 817.150 - 817.166. Since the general area is important habitat for elk, it is recommended that all roads be reclaimed.

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Recommendations:

The proposed exploration plan should not be approved until the above comments have been adequately addressed.

cc: J. Leatherwood  
BT3013/28-29